Interstate Commerce Commission

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

law in so many ways that the average man has never heard of them all. Besides its role as a body combining the legislative, executive, and judicial func-

Under the old interstate commerce law, passed in 1887, the railroads did pretty much as they pleased. They did not have any too much respect for it since it never did more harm than to give their attorneys a chance to earn some of their salary. But under the new one they are usually pretty sure that the outcome of a complaint is going to be favorable before they will allow the matter to come to a formal hearing. Under the old law, as soon as a ruling was made by the commission, the railroads carried the case to court, but under the new law it has been different. In the year and more since the reorganization there has been but a single decision of the commission appealed from, and that is an appeal by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad from a decision on a discriminatolu it was alleged to have made against independent oil men in favor of Standard Oil. Moreover, there are many instances where formal complaints have been made and afterward dismissed, "the defendant having voluntarily agreed to grant the conditions sought to be imposed on it by the commission." Out of a total of about 400 formal complaints filed since the new law took effect, there have been some forty such compromises. This "don't shoot; I'll come down" policy of the railroads argues for the justice of the complaints in those cases.

When a formal complaint is filed with

the commission the newspapers get it, for on the desk in the office of the chief clerk the correspondents find the complaints filed for that day. But back of this there is much that even the wideawake newspaper men do not know. Before a complaint is filed in a formal way there is an informal one. The man who thinks he needs to resort to the haven of refuge for the shipping world writes The commission considers them, and then writes to the railroad against which the complaint is made to see if some ami-cable adjustment cannot be effected before adding to a browded docket another the difficulty is adjusted informally and regard and admiration. says there are about six cases settled in this way where there is one by formal complaint. A report of the commission shows that during the past year there were over 2,300 informal, and only 400

The humblest citizen of the land finds that the commission gives the same at- McKinley Manual Freshmen Told to tention to his complaint as it does to that of the wealthiest corporation. The different cases range in importance from those involving a few dollars to others the most interesting cases was that of the Loop Creek Colliery Company, of West Virginia, against the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, in which the coal company sought to compel the railroad to give it as good rates as it gave to other shippers on its own line. Stated that way, the case appears to be a perthat way, the case appears to be a per-fectly uninteresting one. But the Loop Creek Colliery Company has back of it the new one-hundred-million-dollar, built-of the new arrangements by which they without-a-bond railroad, which H. H. are to be accommodated in three rooms KILLS FRIEND TO SETTLE BET. Rogers and others are constructing from Norfolk, Va., to the Great Lakes, and McKinley school on Seventh street norththence probably West to the Pacific. It is a case of two gigantic corporations west. They were instructed to report control of the coal fields of West Vir- It may be several days before the rented pany was represented by its counsel to be a perfectly harmless little coal comwith its life in danger of being crushed out by a great railroad, backed the powerful Pennsylvania system. pany to be but the impersonation of the big interests that were building the new threatened to swallow up the defendant, and might also in the end make a breakfast of the powerful Pennsylvania sys-

Here is a sample complaint of an ordinary citizen. A gentleman from Tennessee went to the Jamestown Exposition with his wife. He bought a ticket from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad which entitled him to passage from Norfolk to Washington on the steamer, including sleeping accommodations. He could not get the berth he had paid for, and the commission will find the reason why. In this case his recourse will be on the railroad selling him the ticket, and the commission will take it up informally by correspondence and see if the matter cannot be adjusted without the filing of

a formal complaint.

Here is another complaint illustrative of what can be done by the average citizen in protecting his own rights and those of the traveling public generally. A gentleman residing in Washington recently bought transportation for his wife to the Pacific Coast. He wanted it by way of Portland to Seattle. The ticket agent said he could not sell it that way; that she would have to go to Portland and buy the ticket to Seattle from there. She did this, but was afterward informed by a relative who was a railroad official that her ticket should have read from Washington to Seattle, via Portland. She wrote her husband to this effect, and he took it up with the railroad to recover the extra fair paid. The correspondence grew so voluminous and intricate that he had to carry it to the Interstate Commerce Commission to find out what it meant. They are now trying to straight-

An Eastern road was in the habit of running only one day coach on a train carrying heavy day traffic. Every day

en the matter out.

Though the Interstate Commerce Com- from ten to twenty people were unable mission has the regulation of some four- to find a seat unless they paid extra to observed that if he had some cash ahead teen billion dollars' worth of property in- ride in the Pullmans. A traveler who he would build him a little railroad and vested in the railroads of this country, knew something of what the commis-and has been in the spot light for years, sion can do, chanced to ride on that train could accumulate from excessive rates its workings are understood in only the one day. He could not find a seat during would more than make up for any reparmost general way. Congress established the whole journey for himself or his semithe commission and gave it its powers, so that the people of the country could have recourse against the evil practices that have been growing up in the rail-

ferences in an informal way constitutes, perhaps, their most far-reaching line of endeavor.

hundred miles or more West, and thence back again right past the starting point. Danville, Va., had the same sort of trourespondents.

ent on freight from the South than did Lynchburg, whose freight was carried right by Danville's doors and fifty miles farther. A miller in Staunton, some 200 miles from Newport News, had to pay more per barrel in freight charges than did the miller in St. Paul, some 1,500 miles away, and the shipment of the St. Paul miller went by the door of the Staunton

An official of the commission jocularly invalid, wife. He asked the conductor in mind the reparation claims under the road world. The commission finds op-portunity to carry out the spirit of the law in so many ways that the average there are sent the period of the train; and ever since the people are get-ting the seats they pay for. a favorable decision. The railroads car-One of the greatest troubles the com-mission has is to make the railroads give a tavorable decision. The familians car ried it to the Supreme Court, but lost their case. The effect of this was that legislative, executive, and judicial func-legislative, executive, and judicial func-tions of government, it also plays the Until recently shippers of cattle and to the shippers who demanded them. The role of peacemaker, and if the beatitude about peacemakers being blessed extends to the official acts of a governmental body, then the members of the Interstate Commerce Commission will have ed in order to get the most advantageous to the same line by the very station where they originate the commerce of the Interstate Commerce Commission will have ed in order to get the most advantageous by the very station where they originate the commerce of the Interstate Commerce Commission will have ed in order to get the most advantageous by the very station where they originate the commerce of the Interstate Commerce Commission will have ed in order to get the most advantageous by the very station where they originate the commerce of the Interstate Commerce Commission will have ed in order to get the most advantageous by the very station where they originate the commerce of the Interstate of the Shippers of cattle and to the snippers who demanded them. The total overcharges amounted to over \$5, and overc state Commerce Commission will have ed, in order to get the most advantageous business, and had no knowledge of what the most fashionable, the most becoming, the most becoming to the most becoming to the most becoming the most becomes th they are supposed to settle differences cago direct from the shipping point was bigher than the rate for carrying it a sult of their carelessness.

To-morrow-Steamboats and Cor-

GIFTS FROM PANAMA CANAL EMPLOYES.



PRESENTED TO JOHN F. STEVENS.

with the correspondence in these cases, which is engraved with the Stevens mon- Secretary Taft.

the difficulty is adjusted informany and
the world never knows that there was Mr. Stevens' service on the canal work The sliver service set and sliver salver that the latest Paris style has been folthe world never knows that there was an extended over the period when the lock promise fall, then the matter comes up in the shape of a formal complaint, and given a successful start. His leadership University Club of Panama, which is by rare specimens, and that the creations of the shape of a formal complaint, and given a successful start. His leadership University Club of Panama, which is by rare specimens, and that the creations of the shape of a formal complaint, and given a successful start. the correspondents get it. The number was supported by remarkable loyalty of complaints adjusted thought satisfactions of the millinery department of the first state of complaints adjusted through the greater than the number settled through formal hearings and decisions. An official of the commission who has to do magnificent silver service, each piece of with the funds subscribed by the employes, a magnificent silver service, each piece of with those of President Roosevelt and HEARING IS POS.

a large appropriation for school buildings.

three-fourths of the space that we should

as to Weight of Victim.

old Ernest Trusch, of 113 Charlton street,

"I'll bet \$5 I weigh 158 pounds," de-

to pay, and in the quarrel which fol-

owed Trusch, it is charged, drew a knife

and slashed Hahn across the throat.

ITEMS FROM ABROAD.

over Hahn's weight.

lying almost instantly.

New York, Sept. 27.—Because of a dis-

ASSIGNED TO THE CENTRAL

Report There on Monday.

representing as many millions. One of Three Rooms Available for Classes as Study Halls-Bench Work at Training School.

fighting the preliminary skirmish for the again on Monday morning at 9 o'clock. ginia. In the arguments the colliery com- rooms are available, in which case a to pay a wager he had made regarding it, number of pupils will be accommodated Henry Hahn, a Hoboken youth, was temporarily in the assembly room of the stabbed to death to-day. Sixteen-year-Business school.

This method of settling a question Manhattan, is charged with the murder. On the other hand, the counsel for the which for several days has proved most The prisoner, his victim, and three defendant represented the colliery com- vexatious to the school authorities was friends had been drinking in Hahn's announced yesterday by Supt. Chancellor, store, at 500 First street, Hoboken, last following a final conference with Presi- evening, and early to-day, when the party dent James F. Oyster, of the board of was about to break up, a dispute arose education, and Dr. George E. Myers, principal of the McKinley Manual Training

The order transferring sixty pupils who heretofore attended the Central to the

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John F. Stevens, one of the vice presi- | ogram; a gold repeater watch, and a dents of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, and former chief engineer of the Panama Canal, has received ver set is engraved "Mr. Stevens, from array at leisure. Furthermore, the deformal complaint. If such an adjust-ment, satisfactory to both parties, can be made, that is the end of the matter; three handsome gifts from the employes on the isthmus as a testimonial of their be made, that is the end of the matter; other characteristic features.

Eastern and Western high schools leave vacant three rooms for the accommoda-

tion of the pupils of the McKinley. By case of Dr. Harrison and others against giving shop work to one class while the United States Civil Service Commisnother is at recitations, six classes will sion has been postponed until next Fri-The new quarters are to be used only as study halls, the pupils going to the McKinley for their bench and shop work.

Supt. Chancellor announced that at the coming session of Congress the school commission, consisting of Capt. Jay J. Morrow, Engineer Commissioner. Laws the instance of the District Commissioners in order to commissioners.

Commissioners in order to secure an Morrow, Engineer Commissioner; James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect of the Treasury, and himself, will ask for The commissioners in order to secure an eligible list from which appointments may be made to fill minor District positions. The complainants declare that the com-

A NOVEL SHIRT WAIST.



Paris, Sept. 27.-Capt. J. C. Fremont, he American naval attache here, has been recalled and will, it is understood, receive the command of a Potsdam, Prussia, Sept. 27.-Prince Charles Gustav von Thurn und Taxis, a lieutenant in the Prussian Foot Guards, fell downstairs at the egimental quarters to-day and fractured his skull Gravelines, France, Sept. 27.—The Ursuline nuns were expelled from their convent here yesterday by a detachment of troops, assisted by gendarmes. A large crowd cheered the nuns repeatedly, and the gendarmes were powerless to disperse

ble. After she had raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to build a competing road, the Southern got it, and Danville people had to pay more by 20 to 40 per HATS DRAW BEAUTIES SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Femininity's Present Center Woodward & Lothrop's.

GIRLS OF ALL AGES AT OPENING

Misses, Pretty Maids, and Stately Matrons Examine Artistic Collection of the Season's Latest Styles in Milady's Hendgear, Many of Them Direct from "Gay Paree."

ferns, clusters of golden-rod and cut flowers, and standing before them a multitude of the handsomest of women, trying on the most stunning hats that ever new fall and winter hats, crowded the show rooms of that popular establishment from early morning until the close of

It was indeed a rare treat that presented itself to the eye from an artistic viewpoint. The harmony of color, the conception of design, the combination of both in the final idea of the hat, the symphony of flowers, of feathers, of symphony of howers, of feathers, of teathers, of the degree of Bachelor of Laws will be conferred colors and shapes appealed strongly to on completion of two years work; Master of Laws those patrons who know what's what in the line of exclusive headgear,

Season's Styles Many. A bewildering, though harmonious, ar- W. PRESTON WILLIAMSON, Esq., ray of purples, greens, browns, prune and wine comprise the colors predominating in picture hats, velvet hats, silk hats, satin hats, and felts, all of which are LEMUEL FUGITT, Esq., the proper caper this season.

Rich, glossy, gracefully drooping trich plumes hold supreme sway as "the VICTOR L. DODGE, Esq., thing" in the line of giving the hat that much-sought exclusive effect. Fancy feathers, wings, flowers, and ribbons are

for millinery purposes has reached such a state of perfection that it requires the eye of an expert to tell the difference between nature's own product and man's MountVernon a state of perfection that it requires the handiwork. The flowers used in the Woodward & Lothrop millinery display are such perfect counterfelts of Mother Nature's own blossoms and blooms that if it were not for the fragrance of the ELEVEN HUNDRED M ST. rose, the violet, and other children of the garden, the field, and meadow, they would pass muster for the genuine article, even to the eye of the initiated. The texture and fiber is of the most ethereal, the colors the most delicate and natural, the designs beautiful, and the green of the leaves refreshing to Mrs. Elizabeth J. Somers Principals

Comfort for Their Patrons, The display is arranged to the bes possible advantage, plenty of floor space and a multiplicity of mirrors affording of the visitors. It goes without saying

HEARING IS POSTPONED.

Civil Service Examination Case to

"We have no complaint to make about the buildings," said he. "They are all right as far as they go, but there is not room enough. We have only about the Federal government.



sign is here sketched, the bretelle cape unusual in so utilitarian a garment. Dresden, Saxony, Sept. 27.-The King of This, combined with the wide tuck be Saxony presided at a meeting of the Saxon cabinet to-day, at which it was decided to continue the allowance made to the former Crown Princess Louise, now Madame Toselli. The king, however, announced that he intended to take her youngest child from her.

Shanghai, Sept. 27.—Boxers have burned to the saxon cabinet which it issues, emphasizes the proad-shouldered effect now so universally sought after. The twin box plaits down the center of the front, beneath which the closing of the waist is invisibly effected, is also a distinguishing footby. Putpher lines with the which it issues, emphasizes the proad-shouldered effect now so universally sought after. The twin box plaits down the center of the front, beneath which it issues, emphasizes the proad-shouldered effect now so universally sought after. The twin box plaits down the center of the front, beneath which it issues, emphasizes the proad-shouldered effect now so universally sought after. The twin box plaits down the closing of the waist is invisibly effected, is also a distinguishing footby. Shanghaf, Sept. 27.—Boxers have burned feature. Butcher linen, madras, or cot. Shanghal, Sept. 21.—Boxers have burned the mission stations at Nankangsine, murdered an Italian missionary and several native converts at Tawouli village, and looted and burned the Lazurist father's mission at Kanchowfu, in Kiang-Si province. The missionaries of the province have taken refuge at Kiafu and telegraphed to Pekin for assist-Five sizes, 32 to 40 inches bust measure

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The thirty-seventh annual session opens on Wednesday, October 2, 1907, at 6:30 p. ms., in the Law serhous Building, 608 and 508 E street northwest, at which time announcements will be made for the enauling term. All interested are cordially invited to be present. ensuing term. All interested are cordisily invited to be present.

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